

Belmont Cultural Council Meeting: October 27, 2009 minutes

Members Attending: Sarah Freiberg (chair), Mary Keith, Anne Quirk, Christine Sandvik, Ken Stalberg

Also attending: Sara Bruya

Members Absent: Juliet Jenkins, Laura Northridge

The meeting came to order at 7:30 in Belmont Town Hall.

The minutes from last meeting were read and unanimously approved.

The grant proposals still under active consideration were discussed, as follows:

Shane Wood Jazz Trio (#4 on spreadsheet): Queried about a local partner by e-mail and telephone by Anne Quirk, Mr. Wood did not respond. Sarah Freiberg reports the Council on Aging has no recollection of him. The board unanimous agreed to deny funding.

High School Literary Magazine (#6): Ken Stalberg has approached Lisa Hurtubise, an English teacher at Belmont High, to gauge interest in this publication. If BHS to distribute to students, then board will strongly consider funding.

Song Birds of Northeast (7): Anne Quirk reported that the grant was strong, assigned it a score of 18 (after admitting that she was an easy grader), and highly recommended that it be considered by the whole committee for funding. Sarah Freiberg added that the Council on Aging (COA) was very enthusiastic about the program, but she cautioned that, if funded, it would be the third consecutive year for this program. A fourth would almost certainly be denied due to the LCC's rules against dependency.

Music for Young Children (10): Discussion postponed due to Juliet Jenkins's absence.

Art Workshop with Giles Laroche (11): Mary Keith reported that the grant was strong, assigned it a score of 16 (after admitting she was a tough grader), and highly recommended that it be considered by the whole committee for funding.

Belmont Dramatic Club at COA (12): Anne Quirk reported that the grant budget included refreshments, which can't be funded by the BCC, but was otherwise sound. She scored it a 16 and recommended that it be considered by whole committee for funding.

Clarence Darrow at COA (13): Sarah Freiberg reported the COA was also enthusiastic about this proposal and she scored it an 18. However, as with Song Birds (#7) proposal, she noted that performer regularly seeks BCC funding (albeit with different shows) and may courting dependency troubles.

Writing Workshop at Library (14): Discussion postponed due to Juliet Jenkins's absence.

Exploring Careers (15): Christine Sandvik reported that this a two-part project aimed at very target audience at Chenery. Part one has already begun, a series of workshops featuring guest speakers, and has been funded; part two involves a student generated media project but budget appears high and project seems unclear.~ Christine to find out more specifics from grant writer before making recommendation to whole committee.

Collage Exhibition (16): Mary Keith reported that artist was previously funded but unable to complete project due to illness. Before making recommendation to whole committee Mary will find out from grant writer what will become of framed collages (most of budget goes to framing) and whether a public talk is planned as part of exhibition.

Powers Concerts (17): Ken Stalberg expressed enthusiasm for the grant and recommended that it be considered by the whole committee. Sarah Freiberg again cautioned about dependency, as Powers tends to write proposals for similar projects every year.

Record Players (18): Christine Sandvik expressed enthusiasm for the grant and recommended that it be considered by the whole committee.

COA musical instruments (20): Sarah Freiberg expressed enthusiasm for this highly targeted grant and recommended that it be considered by the whole committee.

Wildlife Conservation Program (21): Mary Keith expressed enthusiasm for the grant but will find out more details (including timing of programming -- several afternoons over a week, month, longer?) before making a recommendation to the whole committee.

Open Studios (22): Christine Sandvik expressed enthusiasm for this program, which will be done in conjunction with the Arsenal Center for the Arts in Watertown, and recommended it be considered by the whole committee.

Sara Bruya discussed demands on her time but expressed interest in joining committee. Sarah Freiberg described the procedures for doing so.

Committee adjourned at 9:00.

Minutes submitted by Anne Quirk.